

INTELLOFAX 4

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from the Ohrdruf Military Post and Troop Training Grounds 25X1

25X1 EVALUATION [ ] PLACE OBTAINED [ ] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 3 and 4 February 1951

25X1 DATE OBTAINED [ ] DATE PREPARED 14 March 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 3 and 4 February 1951, German craftsmen made repairs in some of the camps in the woods at Ohrdruf (M 51/J 15) and in the barracks installation on Arnstaedter Strasse. The camps and most of the officers' billets in the town area were vacant throughout the winter months. Only the barracks installation on Arnstaedter Strasse was occupied by 350 to 400 troops who were referred to as cadre personnel and were employed as guards.

[ ] forest rangers (Waldaufseher), [ ] were attached to the Soviet guard unit commanded by a major. The barracks installation on Arnstaedter Strasse consisted of a main section and a northern section; the latter, destroyed in 1945, was being reconditioned. The construction of some new wooden barracks buildings in the main section was still in progress. The empty generals' houses on both sides of Arnstaedter Strasse were being repaired. Many painters and other craftsmen were seen. It was said that more than 400 German craftsmen were engaged in repair work in military installations in Ohrdruf. [ ] also stated that from 35,000 to 40,000 Soviet troops had been in Ohrdruf during the 1950 summer training period.

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2. Local residents said that several large troop camps were located near Muehlberg, northeast of Ohrdruf. These camps were built from wooden barracks removed from the Buchenwald concentration camp. It was said that additional summer camps were located at Heerde, Tarmenbuchshof, and near Oberhof. [ ] doubted these statements because he believed that the troop camps extended only as far as Crawinkel.

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3. [ ] the units which were at Ohrdruf in the summer of 1950 came from Glauchau, Jena, Saalfeld, Rudolstadt, Zeitz, Gera, Altenburg, and Plauen.

4. The Soviet storage facilities on Koelfiserstrasse were apparently empty. They were locked and not guarded.

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5. [redacted] fresh tank treads in the snow between Crawinkel and Ohrdruf. Local residents stated that only four light tanks and a few artillery pieces were stationed in Ohrdruf at the beginning of February. Soviet motor vehicles [redacted]

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were seen at Ohrdruf. \*

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- \* [redacted] Comment. Available information indicate that two barracks installations are located on the northern perimeter of Ohrdruf, while several camps of wooden barracks are situated on both sides of the Ohrdruf-Crawinkel road. No troop camps are known to be located at Muhlberg, Meerda or Tannebuchshof. The location of the two latter towns could not be determined. [redacted]

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[redacted] the division's 963th Gds How Arty Regt was believed to have been permanently stationed in Ohrdruf. This belief is not substantiated by the present report, provided [redacted] statement that the barracks installation on Arnstaedter Strasse quartered only guard personnel was correct. However, the fresh tank treads indicate that troop units were at Ohrdruf at that time, probably only for temporary firing practice. Similar information has been received from other troop training grounds.

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